

Revised January 2002

Michigan's Safety Belt Law Enforcement Guide

This guide is to assist law enforcement officers with identifying restraint law violations for the purpose of making a primary traffic stop.



CHILD RESTRAINT EXEMPTIONS (less than 4 years)

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| 710d | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Passenger in a bus, school bus, taxicab, moped, motorcycle, or other motor vehicle not required to be equipped with safety belts• Child being nursed• Child qualifying for a Secretary of State rule exemption due to size, medical problems, or physical unfit |
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SAFETY BELT EXEMPTIONS

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| 710e | <p>Driver or passenger:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In a motor vehicle manufactured before January 1, 1965• In a bus, motorcycle, moped• Who has written verification from a physician for physical or medical reasons• Motor vehicle not required to be equipped with safety belts under federal law• Commercial or US postal service vehicle that makes frequent stops• Rural postal carrier while serving route <p>Passengers only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• School bus passengers (drivers must be belted)• Children 4 years or older but less than 16 in rear seats if all available belts are used and driver and all front seat passengers are properly belted• Children 4 years or older but less than 16 in front seat of a pickup without an extended cab or jump seats, if all available belts are used |
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Questions? Contact the MSP Vehicle Code Unit at 517-336-6660



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Public Act No. 29 of 1999
Effective March 10, 2000
0 Point Civil Infraction

RESTRAINT USE REQUIREMENTS

Age	Restraint	Section
0-3	All passengers shall be properly secured in approved Child Restraint System*	257.710d Driver responsible
4-15	All passengers shall wear a properly adjusted and fastened safety belt**	257.710e Driver responsible
16 years and older	Driver and front seat passengers shall wear a properly adjusted and fastened safety belt**	257.710e Violating occupant responsible

* In compliance with CFR 49 section 571.213

** In compliance with CFR 49 section 571.208 and 571.209

VEHICLES MANUFACTURED WITH SHOULDER BELTS

According to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard

Model Year	Vehicle Type	Restraint Equipment
1974 to 1989	Passenger Car (Hard Tops)	Front Shoulder Belts*
1990 to Present	Passenger Car (Hard Tops)	Front and Rear Shoulder Belts*
1992 to Present	Convertibles, Trucks under 10,000 lbs** and Multipurpose Passenger Vehicles	Front and Rear Shoulder Belts*

* Lap belt only is required in middle seat

** Some trucks over 10,000 lbs are not required to be equipped with shoulder belts

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